

Appendix A —
Chronology of Coordination Activities

AGENCY AND PUBLIC COORDINATION FOR THE BEARTOOTH HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

February 5, 1998	Letter from FHWA to USFWS requesting information on T&E Species
February 19, 1998	Response from USFWS
May 20, 1998	SEE Team Meeting and Field Review attended by USFS, NPS, and WYDOT
May 21, 1998	Interagency meeting attended by NPS, Corps, USFS, and the Park County, Wyoming, County Commissioners; (WYDOT, WDEQ, and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department were invited, but did not attend)
May 20-21, 1998	Public scoping meetings in Cody, WY and Red Lodge, MT
June 22-25, 1998	Preliminary Design review attended by NPS, USFS, and WYDOT
September 3, 1998	Notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the project appears in the Federal Register
September 8/10, 1998	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting attended by NPS, USFS, WYDOT, and USFWS; (Corps, WY Game and Fish, and WDEQ invited but did not attend); Interagency meeting attended by USFWS, Corps, WDEQ, NPS, USFS; (WY Game and Fish invited but did not attend)
September 8-10 1998	Public Scoping Meetings in Cody, WY, and Red Lodge, Billings, and Cooke City, Montana
October 8, 1998	Letter to USFWS, Corps, EPA, and WDEQ describing change in project from 3R to 4R due to additional funds provided under TEA 21. Letter announces preparation of EIS for the project and requests agencies receiving the letter to participate as Cooperating agencies in the project.
October 23, 1998	Letter from Corps agreeing to be a cooperating agency
November 18, 1998	Letter from USFWS agreeing to be a cooperating agency
March 16, 1999	Interagency meeting to review work completed and review planned activities for the EIS (WYDOT, USFS, NPS, MDOT, USFWS, WY Game and Fish, Park County Commissioners, Red Lodge Mayor invited)
June 9, 1999	Draft purpose and need and outline of alternatives distributed
June 16-18, 1999	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting and field review attended by USFWS, USFS, NPS and WYDOT (Corps, WDEQ, and Park County Commissioners invited but did not attend). Revised purpose and need distributed for comment
August 3, 1999	WYSHPO concurs with FHWA's eligibility determinations
September 8, 1999	Wetland Field Review attended by USFWS, Corps, NPS, and USFS. Corps indicated mapping was acceptable. (WYDOT invited but did not attend)
September 9, 1999	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting attended by Corps, USFWS, USFS, NPS, and WYDOT.
September 22, 1999	Letter requesting EPA, USFWS, Corps, NPS, WYDOT, and USFS to be cooperating agencies for the EIS reissued
October 8, 1999	Letter from NPS agreeing to be a Cooperating agency
November 8, 1999	Letter from USFS agreeing to be a Cooperating agency
May 2, 2000	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting attended by USFWS, NPS, USFS, WYDOT, and WDEQ. Purpose of the meeting was to approve the purpose and need and develop a consensus on the approach for identifying and addressing alternatives
May 11, 2000	Letter from Corps providing comments on draft chapters 1 and 2
July 11, 2000	Interagency field review focusing on recreational facilities attended by USFS and NPS
July 12, 2000	Interagency field review focusing on historic properties attended by USFS, NPS, and WYSHPO
August 7-11, 2000	Interagency field review attended by USFWS, Corps, USFS, and NPS (WYSHPO, WDEQ, and WY Game and Fish invited but did not attend)
August 11, 2000	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting attended by USFWS, Corps, USFS, and NPS (WYSHPO, WDEQ, and WY Game and Fish invited but did not attend). Project update given; purpose and need and alternatives discussion requires further revision

September 19, 2000	Wetland delineation submitted to the Corps
September 21, 2000	Wetland Mitigation Sites Field Review attended by Corps and USFS (NPS, USFWS, WY Game and Fish, WDEQ, and SHPO invited but did not attend)
September 22, 2000	Meeting to discuss Grizzly Bear concerns attended by USFWS and USFS (NPS, Corps, WY Game and Fish, WDEQ, and SHPO invited but did not attend)
October 2-3, 2000	Public open house meetings in Cody, Wyoming and Red Lodge, Montana
October 3, 2000	Meeting with Park County, Wyoming Commissioners
October 5, 2000	Meeting with Carbon County, Montana Commissioners; Luncheon with Rotary Club in Red Lodge, MT
February-20, 2001	Corps requested revision of wetland delineation per recent U.S. Supreme Court Decision
June 27, 2001	Letter to USFWS requesting update on species list
July 10, 2001	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting attended by Corps, USFS, NPS, WYSHPO and WYDOT. Preliminary drafts of Chapters 1 and 2 distributed for review and comment (WY Game and Fish and USFWS invited but could not attend)
July 11, 2001	Wetland mitigation field review attended by Corps, USFS, and YNP (USFWS, WYSHPO, WY Game and Fish, WDEQ, and WYDOT invited but did not attend); Field review with environmental groups (GYC) attended by GYC, USFS, and WYSHPO (USFWS, Corps, WDEQ, and WYDOT invited but did not attend); Fox Creek Work Camp field review attended by USFS and Corps
July 13, 2001	Letter from USFWS providing updated species information
July 25, 2001	Received comments from WYSHPO on chapters 1 and 2 of the draft EIS
August 15, 2001	Project information transmitted to EPA per request made via phone call received on August 14, 2001
August 16, 2001	Received comments from Corps on chapters 1 and 2 of the draft EIS
September 10, 2001	Preliminary draft EIS distributed to USFWS, Corps, USFS, NPS, WY Game and Fish, Park County, WY, Carbon County, MT, EPA, WYSHPO, WDEQ, and tribes, for review and comment
September 12, 2001	Final Wetland Delineation and draft Conceptual Wetland Mitigation plan submitted to Corps and EPA
September 18, 2001	Draft determination of effect letter submitted to the WYSHPO
October 10-11, 2001	Interagency/SEE Team meeting held to receive agency comments on preliminary draft EIS attended by USFS, Corps, NPS, USFWS, and WDEQ (tribes, WYSHPO, and WY Game and Fish, EPA, and Park County and Carbon County Commissioners were invited but did not attend)
October 19, 2001	Received verification of wetland delineation from of Corps; Received letter from Corps commenting on the preliminary draft EIS
October 21, 2001	Draft Conceptual Mitigation Plan submitted to USFWS.
November 6, 2001	Meeting with EPA and Corps to brief the EPA about the project, to receive EPA's comments on the preliminary draft EIS, and coordinate the NEPA and Section 404 permitting process
August 8, 2000	Field visit to NPS to view revegetation and aesthetic treatments
November 14, 2001	Meet with WYSHPO and USFS to receive the WYSHPO's comments on the preliminary draft EIS, address the WYSHPO's letter dated July 25, 2001, and to discuss FHWA's draft letter of effect and possible measures to mitigate effects
November 15, 2001	Plan and profiles for segment of road that extends through the Beartooth Ravine submitted the USFWS to determine whether the road maintains lynx habitat connectivity.
November 27, 2001	FS provides comments on the preliminary draft EIS
January 8, 2002	Received memorandum from USFWS and SNF commenting on lynx connectivity
January 11, 2002	Second preliminary draft EIS submitted to USFS, USFWS, WY Game and Fish, Park County and Carbon County Commissioners, EPA, WDEQ, tribes, WYDOT, WYSHPO, and Corps for review and comment
January 30, 2002	Interagency/SEE Team meeting held to receive comments on second preliminary draft EIS attended by NPS, WYSHPO, USFS, and Medicine Wheel Coalition for Sacred Sites (USFWS, WY Game and Fish, Park County and Carbon County Commissioners, EPA, WDEQ, WYDOT, Corps, and other tribes were invited but they did not attend)
February 1, 2002	Letter from Corps providing comments on the second preliminary draft EIS
February 4, 2002	Letter from NPS providing comments on the second preliminary draft EIS
February 8, 2002	Letter from USFS providing comments on the second preliminary draft EIS

February 11, 2002	Letter from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes providing comment on the second preliminary draft EIS
February 15, 2002	E-mail from WDEQ indicating that they had no comments on the second preliminary draft EIS
February 24, 2002	E-mail from EPA providing comments on second preliminary draft EIS
March 4, 2002	Letters to Medicine Wheel Coalition for Sacred Sites of North America, Northern Arapaho Business Council, and Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council transmitting cultural resources surveys for review and comment
March 5, 2002	Letter to USFWS requesting update of species list
March 6, 2002	Letter to USFWS requesting species list for wetland mitigation sites
March 8, 2002	Outline of BA/BE submitted to SNF and USFWS for review and comment
March 13, 2002	Meeting with EPA to discuss comments on second preliminary draft EIS received from EPA on 2/24/02
March 26, 2002	Revised preliminary draft EIS submitted to Corps for review and comment on chapters 1 and 2 to determine if Corps's 2/1/02 comments were adequately addressed.
March 29, 2003	Letter from MT USFWS providing species list
April 11, 2002	Letter from Corps stating that all comments on preliminary draft EIS have been satisfactorily addressed
April 16, 2002	Letter from USFS stating that use of Fox Creek Campground for the work camp is a temporary use with respect to Section 4(f)
May 21, 2002	Conference call with USFWS and USFS regarding the Biological Assessment.
June 10, 2002	Draft EIS submitted to public and agencies for review and comment; Determination of effect letter submitted to WYSHPO with a copy of the DEIS; Letter addressing Shoshone-Bannock's comments included in its 2/1//02 letter sent to the tribe; Letter to EPA transmitting draft EIS and Final Conceptual Wetland Mitigation Plan; Letter to Corps transmitting draft EIS and Final Conceptual Wetland Mitigation Plan; Letter to USFWS transmitting draft EIS and Final Conceptual Wetland Mitigation Plan
June 14, 2002	Notice of draft EIS availability announced in Federal Register
June 24, 2002	Draft Biological Assessment submitted to USFWS and USFS
July 1, 2002	Another copy of the draft Biological Assessment submitted to FWS
July 9, 2002	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting to prepare for Scoping meetings attended by Corps, USFS, NPS, and EPA (WY Game and Fish, WDEQ, tribes, WYDOT, WYSHPO, and USFWS invited but did not attend); Interagency Meeting to review draft Biological Assessment attended by USFS, USFWS, and EPA
July 10, 2002	WYSHPO submits letter commenting on draft EIS and concurring with determination of effect
July 11, 2002	Field Review with EPA to review environmental impacts, particularly wetland impacts, created by the proposed project. Attended by EPA, Corps, and NPS (SNF invited but did not attend)
July 9-11, 2002	Public hearings to receive comments on the draft EIS held in Cody, WY and Cooke City and Red Lodge, Montana
July 16, 2002	Letter from ERO Resources (FHWA contractor) to USFWS and SNF summarizing decisions/action items from 7/9/02 meeting regarding draft Biological Assessment
July 22, 2002	Letter from Wyoming Game and Fish commenting on the draft EIS
July 23, 2002	Left voicemail with Shoshone-Bannock Tribe to set up field review in late August 2002.
July 26, 2002	Letter from the Corps commenting on the draft EIS
July 29, 2002	Letter from the NPS commenting on the draft EIS; Letter from the EPA commenting on the draft EIS
July 30, 2002	Letter from the USFS commenting on the draft EIS
August 8, 2002	Section 4(f) comments from the Department of the Interior
August 26, 2002	Field review to address USFWS concerns regarding wildlife crossings attended by USFS and USFWS
August 27-29, 2002	Design Field Review attended by USFS and NPS
September 5, 2002	Letter from Corps confirming that a thorough search and analysis has been completed regarding potential wetland mitigation
September 12, 2002	Distribution of draft comment summary report to USFWS, Corps, NPS, USFS, EPA, and WYSHPO

September 19, 2002	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting to reach an understanding regarding the components of the Preferred Alternative attended by NPS, USFWS, WYDOT, USFS, and Corps. (EPA and WYSHPO invited but did not attend)
October 9, 2002	Letter from EPA requesting additional coordination activities prior to submitting the 404 permit application
October 17, 2002	Submittal of draft MOA to WYSHPO for review and comment
October 23, 2002	Letter sent to WYDOT requesting comment on results from 9/19/02 SEE Team meeting
October 25, 2002	Letter from the USFWS commenting on the draft EIS
November 1, 2002	Meeting among WYSHPO and USFS regarding draft MOA
November 4, 2002	Second letter from NPS expressing additional concerns regarding the Preferred Alternative identified in the preliminary draft EIS.
November 8, 2002	Letter sent to USFS, NPS, USFWS, Corps, EPA, WYDOT, and WYSHPO announcing delay in release of FEIS
November 13, 2002	Letter from USFS concurring with FHWA's 4(f) evaluation for the Beartooth Highway Project EIS
December 12, 2002	Letter from EPA identifying concerns regarding the proposed project
December 20, 2002	Letter from ACHP declining participation in resolution of adverse effects to historic resources
February 4, 2003	Conference call among WYSHPO, MTSHPO, ACHP, CFLHD, and WFLHD to coordinate historic preservation activities associated with the reconstruction of Segment 1 and Segment 4
February 5, 2003	Project update letter sent to USFS, NPS, USFWS, Corps, EPA, WYDOT and WYSHPO
February 11, 2003	Meeting with USFS and NPS to discuss NPS concerns presented in letter dated November 4, 2002
February 14, 2003	Received third set of comments from NPS on the draft EIS
February 27, 2003	Letter from WYDOT commenting on proposal to steepen foreslopes
March 5, 2003	Project update letter sent to USFS, NPS, USFWS, Corps, EPA, WYDOT and WYSHPO
March 28, 2003	Meeting with NPS and USFS to discuss measures to be implemented by the FWHA to minimize environmental impacts
April 4, 2003	Letter from NPS indicating that concerns expressed in their November 4, 2002 letter have been addressed in 2/11/03 and 3/28/03 meetings
April 17, 2003	Meeting with EPA, USFWS, Corps, and SNF to review background of project, project schedule, NEPA process and wetland impacts
April 22, 2003	E-mail from USFWS requesting Beartooth Highway Project documents
April 28, 2003	All documents requested by USFWS delivered; Meeting among EPA, USFWS, Corps, and SNF to review alternatives practicability, impact avoidance and minimization, and revegetation efforts
May 13, 2003	Letter from EPA to FHWA, copying Corps and USFWS, discussing Preferred Alternative
May 21, 2003	Letter to EPA suggesting another meeting
June 4, 2003	Meeting among EPA, USFWS, Corps, and FHWA to review purpose and need and design for western 8.6 miles of the project. EPA, USFWS, and Corps provided Final Wetlands Hydrology Report.
June 11, 2003	Biological Assessment submitted to USFWS
June 16, 2003	Preliminary final EIS sent to USFS, USFWS, Wyoming Game and Fish, EPA, WDEQ, tribes, Corps, WYDOT and WYSHPO
June 26, 2003	Revised draft MOA submitted to SHPO for review and comment
July 1, 2003	Letter from the USFWS acknowledging receipt of request to initiate formal consultation and stating that the biological assessment was complete; Letter from the USFWS commenting on preliminary final EIS
July 3, 2003	Letter from Corps commenting on preliminary final EIS
July 7, 2003	Letter from NPS commenting on preliminary final EIS
July 8, 2003	Interagency/SEE Team Meeting to discuss comments on preliminary FEIS attended by NPS, USFWS, WYDOT, USFS, Corps, and EPA. (Wyoming Game and Fish, WDEQ, WYSHPO, and tribes were invited but did not attend); Letter submitted by USFS commenting on preliminary final EIS
July 22, 2003	WYSHPO provides comments on MOA
July 24, 2003	Letter from WYSHPO commenting on preliminary final EIS

August 5, 2003	404 Permit application submitted to Corps
August 11, 2003	Plans and specification submitted to USFWS, USFS, NPS, and WDEQ (Corps declined to receive a set). Field Review dates also confirmed
August 22, 2003	Biological Assessment errata sheet submitted to USFWS due to changes identified at July 8, 2003 Interagency/SEE Team meeting
August 26, 2003	Field review of wetland mitigation at Top of the World Store
August 27, 2003	Field review of wildlife crossings. Attended by USFWS and SNF.
August 25-28, 2003	Design Field Review. Meeting notes including the wildlife crossing and wetland mitigation field review were distributed to USFWS and Corps
September 4, 2003	Compilation of comments on the plans and specification received from WYDOT
September 12, 2003	Notice of FEIS availability published in the Federal Register and distributed to the public and interested agencies
October 9, 2003	USFWS e-mails draft terms and conditions of BO
October 28, 2003	Letter from EPA commenting on 404 permit application
November 3, 2003	Meeting with USFWS to provide project briefing to new USFWS staff and discuss BO terms and conditions
November 6, 2003	Meeting with EPA to provide project briefing to new EPA NEPA team lead
November 10, 2003	USFWS e-mails draft BO to FHWA for review and comment
November 11, 2003	NPS signs and submits Statement of Concurrence to FHWA
November 17, 2003	Presentation to and receipt of comments from Cody Chamber of Commerce
November 21, 2003	FHWA submits comments on draft BO
December 1, 2003	USFWS issues Final BO
January 16, 2004	Cultural Resources MOA signed
January 20, 2004	USFS signs and submits Statement of Concurrence to FHWA